**Cancellation of licenses of telecom companies**

†2981. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been recommended to Government to cancel the licences and taking strict actions against those telecom companies which have not fulfilled the promise of installing public telephones in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the companies are:

(i) M/s Tata Teleservices in Andhra Pradesh
(ii) M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd. in Gujarat
(iii) M/s Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Ltd. in Maharashtra
(iv) M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd. in Rajasthan
(v) M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd. in Punjab
(vi) M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd. in Madhya Pradesh

The private basic telephone service providers have consistently been insisted upon to complete their unfulfilled performance obligations as per their licence conditions and submit additional performance bank guarantee. The Liquidated Damages provided in the licence conditions have been recovered for delay in performance.

**Appointment on compassionate ground**

2982. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the persons given appointment on compassionate ground in the Deptt. of Telecommunications during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.